

Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs

Lead Administrator: John McReynolds, Executive Director

Lead Financial Officer: Shantha Varahan

FY'14 Budgeted FTE							
		Supervisors	Classified	Unclassified	\$0 - \$35 K	\$35 K - \$70 K	\$70 K - \$\$\$
Division 6	Nursing Care	252	1802	250	1485	507	60
Division 11	Central Office	9	16	12	2	16	10
Division 20	Claims and Benefits	6	27	6	15	18	0
Division 30	State Accrediting Agency	1	2	2		3	1
Total		268	1847	270	1502	544	71

FTE History							
		2014 Budgeted	2013	2012	2011	2010	
Division 6	Nursing Care	2052	1879.3	1800.7	1821.0	1878.9	
Division 11	Central Office	28	21.5	24.5	26.3	24.1	
Division 20	Claims and Benefits	33	25.2	25.8	25.6	24.3	
Division 30	State Accrediting Agency	4	3.5	4.0	4.0	3.8	
Total		2117	1929.5	1855.0	1876.90	1931.1	

FY'14 Projected Division/Program Funding By Source							
		Appropriations	Federal	Revolving	Local	Other*	Total
Division 6	Nursing Care	\$31,998,444	\$77,739,298	\$22,536,519	\$0	\$16,418	\$132,290,679
Division 10	Capital Lease	\$820,991	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$820,991
Division 11	Central Office	\$959,579	\$0	\$2,345,935	\$0	\$13,000	\$3,318,514
Division 20	Claims and Benefits	\$1,010,624	\$0	\$1,469,527	\$0	\$170,000	\$2,650,151
Division 30	State Accrediting Agency		\$476,196	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$476,196
Division 88	Information Technology	\$909,114		\$1,476,434			\$2,385,548
Total		\$35,698,752	\$78,215,494	\$27,828,415	\$0	\$199,418	\$141,942,079

*Source of "Other" and % of "Other" total for each.

\$8,000- Honor Flights, \$3,000- Buffalo Soldiers, \$170,000 Financial Aid (Revolving Fund)

FY'13 Carryover by Funding Source							
		Appropriations	Federal	Revolving	Local	Other*	Total
FY'13 Carryover		\$16,418	\$2,284,610	\$1,689,050	\$0	\$0	\$3,990,078

*Source of "Other" and % of "Other" total for each.

What Changes did the Agency make between FY'13 and FY'14

1.) Are there any services no longer provided because of budget cuts?

No services have been discontinued.

2.) What services are provided at a higher cost to the user?

To avoid higher cost to the user, the agency continues to maintain occupancy rates as high as possible. While the agency continuously monitors expenditures for efficiency, more strenuous efforts will be initiated.

3.) What services are still provided but with a slower response rate?

None.

FY'15 Requested Division/Program Funding By Source							
		Appropriations	Federal	Revolving	Other	Total	% Change
Division 6	Nursing Care	\$2,140,409	\$4,102,245			\$6,242,654	4.72%
Division 11	Central Office	\$12,387				\$12,387	1.51%
Division 20	Claims and Benefits	\$514,239				\$514,239	15.50%
Division 30	State Accrediting Agency		\$1,845			\$1,845	0.07%
Total		\$2,667,035	\$4,104,090	\$0	\$0	\$6,771,125	4.80%

*Source of "Other" and % of "Other" total for each.

FY'15 Top Five Appropriation Funding Requests

				\$ Amount
Request 1	Financial Aid	500,000		\$500,000
Request 2	Capital Projects	1,873,285	3,478,958	\$5,352,243
Request 3	Longevity Increase	62,789	135,855	\$198,644
Request 4	Insurance Benefit Allow. Increase	230,961	489,277	\$720,238
Total				\$6,771,125

How would the agency handle a 3% appropriation reduction in FY'15?

3% appropriation reduction would translate to \$1,070,963 reduction to our agency. Any appropriation reduction will have an adverse impact on the cost of care which has direct impact on federal revenue generated by the agency.

How would the agency handle a 5% appropriation reduction in FY'15?

5% appropriation reduction would translate to \$1,784,938 reduction to our agency.
 As stated above, this loss of federal funds would result in the reduction of number of operating beds available, which would then result in the loss of patient revenue.

Is the agency seeking any fee increases for FY'15?

		\$ Amount
Increase 1	No	\$0
Increase 2		\$0
Increase 3		\$0

Federal Government Impact

- 1.) How much federal money received by the agency is tied to a mandate by the Federal Government?
State Veterans Home (SVH) Per Diem program standards and operational procedures are found in Title 38 of the US Code of Federal Regulations. VA per diem for nursing home care and domiciliary care is paid for any Veteran who is eligible for such care in a VA facility (38 U.S.C. 1741). VA is also required to make higher nursing home per diem payments for certain Veterans with service-connected disabilities.(38 CFR 51.41 Hence, 100% of the federal revenue received by the agency is mandated by the federal government for the operation of all seven veterans centers.
- 2.) Are any of those funds inadequate to pay for the federal mandate?
Yes. The federal revenue covers only 52% of the cost of care provided to veterans at the centers. The rest of the cost is borne by state appropriations of (26%) and the patient maintenance collections of (22%).
- 3.) What would the consequences be of ending all of the federal funded programs for your agency?
Nursing Care Program:
As mentioned above, the mission of the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs is to ensure all Oklahoma veterans and their families receive all benefits to which they may be entitled and to provide excellent health services and long-term skilled care in a residential environment to all qualified veterans residing in the state. Legislative action many years ago established a system of payment for services that enables all honorably discharged wartime veterans to receive quality care through the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Centers regardless of their ability to pay. Through various agreements with the USDVA and federal law, pension, compensation and Aid and Attendance payments are made to veterans by the federal government that enables them to participate in the cost of their care without pauperizing their spouse who is left at home, thus allowing them to put money back into the economy of their local communities and live without the need for Medicaid assistance. Hence, ending all of the federal funded program would result in closing all the veterans centers.
State Accrediting Agency:
The purpose of the State Accrediting Agency (SAA) is the approval activity of education and training establishments for veterans training in the State of Oklahoma and approving Veterans for on - the - job training and apprenticeship programs. They currently administer the seven federal GI bills. They are 100% federally funded.
- 4.) How will your agency be affected by federal budget cuts in the coming fiscal year?
In addition to the above response:
Funding for ODVA construction projects, in general, is shared between the state and federal government. The USDVA pays 65% of the cost of construction or renovation once the project is put on the federally approved construction priority list. Projects currently on the approved list for the State of Oklahoma are life safety issues.
- 5.) Has the agency requested any additional federal earmarks or increases?
No. The agency has not requested any additional earmarks or increases. However, the annual federal basic per diem rate will reflect cost of living adjustment rate increase.

Division and Program Descriptions

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|-------------|---|
| Division 6 | <p>Nursing Care
 The agency provides a home for Military War Veterans who can no longer be cared for in their own homes. The clients are provided with long-term skilled nursing care, domiciliary care and outpatient clinic services.</p> |
| Division 11 | <p>Central Administration
 The Central Administrative program for the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs provides administration, direction, and planning assistance to the seven long term care facilities and five Claims and Benefits division offices and field staff operated by the Department. It sets standards, policies and procedures, and goals for programs and monitors programs to ensure the required standards are met. The Administrative program consists of the following programs/functions: Administrative Services, Affirmative Action, Human Resources, and Fiscal Services. This program also provides administrative support for the office of the Executive Director as well as the War Veterans Commission.</p> |
| Division 20 | <p>Claims and Benefits
 This program provides assistance to veterans relative to obtaining benefits from state and federal agencies. Benefits include compensation, pension, medical benefits and education. This program also provides intermediary financial assistance to eligible veterans that are temporarily unable to obtain basic necessities and other benefits.</p> |

Performance Measure Review					
	FY 10	FY 11	FY 12	FY 13	FY14 BWP
Administration					
1. Percent of Total Budget	3.38%	3.98%	3.90%	4.11%	4.00%
Claims and Benefits					
1. Increase submittals for consideration	36,122	38,932	39,944	40,152	41,558
Nursing Care					
1. Percentage of facilities receiving USDVA certification	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
2. Reduce turnover rate by 2% a year: actual reduction	37.23%	37.94%	34.16%	33.48%	32.81%
3. Statewide waiting list	372	185	200	134	200
4. Average length of stay*	1.85	1.67	2.18	1.7	1.7
5. Average out of pocket for veteran per year	27,139	27,864	27,516	27,690	27,603
6. Average out of pocket for veteran per month	2,262	2,322	2,293	2,308	2,300
7. Average age of veteran	76.5	77	78.3	77	77
Agency Vacancy Rate	\$1,186,925	\$4,353,126	\$2,410,489	\$3,074,537	\$0

* This is an average of those that have passed away within the fiscal year.
We have quite a few residents that have been in our Centers for over 30 years.